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**“Matthew Buckingham: The Spirit and the Letter”
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When it comes to revisiting history, few artists capture complexities and contradictions with the kind of lyrical efficiency that Buckingham brings to the endeavor. In this simple but striking installation conceived in 2007, an overturned chandelier rests on the floor, near a mirror. A video of a well-appointed room illuminated by the same chandelier (seen hanging from the ceiling), shows a woman in an eighteenth-century dress, who looks around the room and then leaves. She reenters, but this time she's walking on the ceiling and declaiming her views on women's rights, while conceding that “until society be differently constituted much cannot be expected.” In other words, as Mary Wollstonecraft wrote, and as Buckingham so powerfully illustrates, true equality would require the world, as Wollstonecraft knew it, to turn upside down.